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CAP FOR PROTECTING THE BRISTLES ON THE END OF A

PAINTBRUSH OR THE LIKE
This application is a 371 of PCT/FR2005/000122, filed
on 01/20/2005.

5 The invention relates to the field of caps for
protecting the end of a paintbrush or the like. Its
subject is an easily removable cap of this type that
nevertheless offers effective, long-lasting protection
for the end of the paintbrush, particularly for the
purposes of carrying it.

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It will be recalled that a paintbrush is formed
principally from a handle that at its distal end
carries bristles that are held on the handle by means
of a ferrule. Here, and in the remainder of the
15 description of the invention, the term "bristles" must
be understood in the general sense and describes all
types of fibers used to manufacture the end (also
called the tuft) of the paintbrush, these fibers being
natural and/or synthetic. One general problem lies in
20 the fragility and flexibility of the bristles, making
it useful for them to be protected when the paintbrush
is not being used, particularly during the latter's
transportation. To that end, the prior art has proposed
caps for protecting the bristles that can be attached
25 reversibly onto the paintbrush handle.

It will be pointed out at this stage of the description
of the present invention that a cap of this type must
be a compromise between the various qualities offered
30 by its structure. These qualities are, in particular,
effective protection of the bristles, the long life of
the cap despite its frequent and regular handling, its
firm fixing onto the paintbrush handle, which must
nevertheless not hamper its easy removal, its
35 comfortable handleability, which is necessary in order
not to prohibit its use, and its pleasing shape and
outer appearance that are capable of attracting a user,
who is deemed to be sensitive to esthetics, given the
field of application of the paintbrush - painting art,